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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/700,760	11/04/2003	John William Peterman JR.	Peterman Spinner	6334

7590 11/22/2005
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EXAMINER

COOLEY, CHARLES E

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

1723

DATE MAILED: 11/22/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/700,760

Applicant(s)

PETERMAN, JOHN WILLIAM

Examiner

Charles E. Cooley

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 07 November 2005.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 5-8 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 5-8 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 29 September 2005 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

FINAL OFFICE ACTION

Election/Restriction Remarks

1. Although all claims are being treated on the merits in this office action, in view of the multiple species that are claimed and disclosed, the examiner reserves the right to require an election of species at a later time if any response filed warrants such action. See MPEP 811 and 37 CFR 1.142(a).

Priority

2. Acknowledgment is made of applicant's claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

3. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.
4. Claim 7 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claim 7, line 3: "the sampling point" lacks antecedent basis.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

5. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

6. **Claims 5-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Hurst (US 4,229,138).**

The patent to Hurst discloses a receptacle rotator including two pairs of fixed contact points 16 and 32 (points 16 being fixed with respect to arms 52 and points 32 being fixed with respect to frame 12, 68 - Fig. 2); movable, tensioned motor driven wheels 17 that are tensioned via spring 72; the contact points being rotatable bearings; the contact points being located along an axis; the contact point 17 being motor driven via motor 16 (shown in Fig. 1).

7. **Claims 5-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Glidden (US 2,006,451).**

The patent to Glidden discloses a receptacle rotator including two pairs of fixed contact points 54; a movable, tensioned motor driven wheel 50 or 52 that is tensioned via spring belt 48; the contact points being rotatable bearings; the contact points being located along an axis; the contact point 50 being motor driven via element 46 typically driven via a motor.

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8. Claim 7 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Newell (US 2,874,873).

The patent to Newell discloses a receptacle rotator including a pair of fixed contact points 52, 54 fixed with respect to element 48 and located above and below a point 50; a movable, tensioned dual wheel (42, 64) motorized (via motor 68) drive tensioned via springs 74 and 76.

9. Claim 8 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Andrews (US 2,653,015).

The patent to Andrews discloses a receptacle rotator including two pairs of fixed contact points 50 and 68; contact points 50 being motorized via motor 58.

10. Claim 8 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Schotter et al. (US 4,281,936).

The patent to Schotter et al. discloses a receptacle rotator including two pairs of fixed contact points 16 and 21; contact point 21 being motorized via motor 24.

11. Claim 8 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Jelley (US 3,764,112).

The patent to Jelley discloses a receptacle rotator including two pairs of fixed contact points 2; contact points 2 being motorized via motor M.

Response to Amendment

12. Applicant's arguments filed 7 NOV 2005 have been fully considered but they are not deemed to be persuasive.

Applicant is reminded that "[a] claim is anticipated only if each and every element as set forth in the claim is found, either expressly or inherently described, in a single prior art reference." *Verdegaal Bros. v. Union Oil Co. of California*, 814 F.2d 628, 631, 2 USPQ2d 1051, 1053 (Fed. Cir. 1987). "The identical invention must be shown in as complete detail as is contained in the ... claim." *Richardson v. Suzuki Motor Co.*, 868 F.2d 1226, 1236, 9 USPQ2d 1913, 1920 (Fed. Cir. 1989). The elements must be arranged as required by the claim, but this is not an ipsissimis verbis test, i.e., identity of terminology is not required. *In re Bond*, 910 F.2d 831, 15 USPQ2d 1566 (Fed. Cir. 1990).

Turning to the rejection of the claims under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b), it is noted that the terminology in a pending application's claims is to be given its broadest reasonable interpretation (*In re Zletz*, 893 F.2d 319, 321, 13 USPQ2d 1320, 1322 (Fed. Cir. 1989)) and limitations from a pending application's specification will not be read into the claims (*Sjolund v. Musland*, 847 F.2d 1573, 1581-82, 6 USPQ2d 2020, 2027 (Fed. Cir. 1988)). Anticipation under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) is established only when a single prior art reference discloses, either expressly or under the principles of inherency, each and every element of a claimed invention. See *Constant v. Advanced Micro-Devices, Inc.*, 848 F.2d 1560, 1570, 7 USPQ2d 1057, 1064 (Fed. Cir.), cert. denied, 488 U.S. 892 (1988); *RCA Corp. v. Applied Digital Data Sys., Inc.*, 730 F.2d 1440, 1444, 221 USPQ

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385, 388 (Fed. Cir. 1984). Moreover, anticipation by a prior art reference does not require either the inventive concept of the claimed subject matter or the recognition of properties that are inherently possessed by the prior art reference. *Verdegaal Brothers Inc. v. Union Oil co. of California*, 814 F.2d 628, 633, 2 USPQ2d 1051, 1054 (Fed. Cir. 1987), cert. denied, 484 U.S. 827 (1987). A prior art reference anticipates the subject matter of a claim when that reference discloses each and every element set forth in the claim (*In re Paulsen*, 30 F.3d 1475, 1478-79, 31 USPQ2d 1671, 1673 (Fed. Cir. 1994) and *In re Spada*, 911 F.2d 705, 708, 15 USPQ2d 1655, 1657 (Fed. Cir. 1990)); however, the law of anticipation does not require that the reference teach what Applicant is claiming, but only that the claims "read on" something disclosed in the reference. *Kalman v. Kimberly-Clark Corp.*, 713 F.2d 760, 772, 218 USPQ 781, 789 (Fed. Cir. 1983), cert. denied, 465 U.S. 1026 (1984) (and overruled in part on another issue), *SRI Intel v. Matsushita Elec. Corp. Of Am.*, 775 F.2d 1107, 1118, 227 USPQ 577, 583 (Fed. Cir. 1985). Also, a reference anticipates a claim if it discloses the claimed invention such that a skilled artisan could take its teachings in combination with his own knowledge of the particular art and be in possession of the invention. See *In re Graves*, 69 F.3d 1147, 1152, 36 USPQ2d 1697, 1701 (Fed. Cir. 1995), cert. denied, 116 S.Ct. 1362 (1996), quoting from *In re LeGrice*, 301 F.2d 929, 936, 133 USPQ 365, 372 (CCPA 1962).

With respect to the applied prior art under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b), the examiner has explicitly demonstrated how the references disclose each and every element set forth in

the claims and how the pending claims read on the disclosures of the references, hence the rejections are considered proper.

Applicant argues that the claims now recite employment in chemical analysis and the prior art is directed to mixing or stirring and none of these anticipate use for maintaining the surface of the rotating member at a particular point to facilitate chemical analysis. However, the intended uses set forth in the preambles of claims 5, 7, and 8 have not been afforded any patentable weight because it is well settled law that a recitation with respect to the manner in which a claimed apparatus is intended to be employed does not differentiate the claimed apparatus from a prior art apparatus satisfying the claimed structural limitations. *Ex parte Masham*, 2 USPQ2d 1647; *In re Sebald*, 122 USPQ 527; *In re Lemin et al.*, 140 USPQ 273; *In re Sinex*, 135 USPQ 302; *In re Pearson*, 181 USPQ 641.

The claim language "for use in chemical analysis" is merely a statement of intended use which imparts no structure to the claimed apparatus. It is well settled that the intended use of an apparatus is not germane to its patentability. *In re Self*, 671 F.2d 1344, 213 USPQ 1 (CCPA 1982); *In re Yanush*, 477 F.2d 958, 177 USPQ 705 (CCPA 1973); *In re Finsterwalder*, 436 F.2d 1028, 168 USPQ 530 (CCPA 1971); *In re Casey*, 370 F.2d 576, 152 USPQ 235 (CCPA 1967).

Conclusion

13. This action is a **final rejection** and is intended to close the prosecution of this application. Applicant's reply under 37 CFR 1.113 to this action is limited either to an

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appeal to the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences or to an amendment complying with the requirements set forth below.

If applicant should desire to appeal any rejection made by the examiner, a Notice of Appeal must be filed within the period for reply identifying the rejected claim or claims appealed. The Notice of Appeal must be accompanied by the required appeal fee.

If applicant should desire to file an amendment, entry of a proposed amendment after final rejection cannot be made as a matter of right unless it merely cancels claims or complies with a formal requirement made earlier. Amendments touching the merits of the application which otherwise might not be proper may be admitted upon a showing a good and sufficient reasons why they are necessary and why they were not presented earlier.

A reply under 37 CFR 1.113 to a final rejection must include the appeal from, or cancellation of, each rejected claim. The filing of an amendment after final rejection, whether or not it is entered, does not stop the running of the statutory period for reply to the final rejection unless the examiner holds the claims to be in condition for allowance. Accordingly, if a Notice of Appeal has not been filed properly within the period for reply, or any extension of this period obtained under either 37 CFR 1.136(a) or (b), the application will become abandoned.

14. In light of Applicant's request for constructive assistance in the remarks, the following new claims 9-12 have been drafted by the examiner and considered to distinguish patentably over the art of record in this application and are presented to applicant for consideration. Since all pending claims stand finally rejected over the prior

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art and entry of a proposed amendment after final rejection cannot be made as a matter of right as noted above, the examiner is unable to consider further amendments that deviate in any respect from the claims suggested below:

PROPOSED LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Claims 1-8 (canceled)

Claim 9 (new) An apparatus for rotating a container about a vertical axis comprising:

a housing;

two generally parallel shafts extending substantially vertically from said housing, said shafts being fixed to said housing;

at least one rotatable container contacting element mounted on each of said shafts;

a drive means mounted within said housing, the drive means rotating a drive wheel about a vertical axis; the drive means pivoting about a pivot point within said housing and having tensioning means for pivoting the drive wheel into forcible engagement with said container;

wherein containers of various sizes can be rotated about a fixed vertical axis between said pivoting drive wheel and said contacting elements.

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Claim 10 (new) An apparatus for rotating a container about a vertical axis in accordance with claim 9, wherein a portion of said drive wheel has a friction surface thereon for engaging said container.

Claim 11 (new) An apparatus for rotating a container about a vertical axis in accordance with claim 9, wherein each said shaft has two rotatable container contacting elements mounted thereon.

Claim 12 (new) An apparatus for rotating a container about a vertical axis in accordance with claim 9, wherein the tensioning means comprises a spring.

* * *

15. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

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16. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Charles E. Cooley whose telephone number is (571) 272-1139. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri.

17. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Wanda Walker can be reached on (571) 272-1151. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Charles" followed by a stylized, cursive flourish.

Charles E. Cooley
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1723

17 November 2005